

Lady Bike

Issue No. 6

\$8.00

ADULTS ONLY

MIRROR MIRROR

Who's The Fairest Of Them All? See For Yourself!

GIRL TALK

Our Very Own Advice Column!

A MORE GLAMOROUS YOU

Paula Sinclair Continues Her Talk On Technique!



JoAnn Roberts

REVIEW

A Look At A Male Actress!

GETTING HIGH

*No, Not Drugs. Heels!
Veronica Anderson Speaks
Her Piece, As Usual!*

LADYLIKE PROFILE

*Our Cover "Girls" Are
Revealed Within!*



Danielle

From The Editor's Pen

“ Last issue I told you that our mail indicated our philosophy of no open sex was what you wanted. Now, I'd like to share some of that mail with you.

“Congratulations on a fine publication. With all the smut passing for crossdressers' literature, it was a joy to open LadyLike and find something of, by and for crossdressers.” - Linda, CT.

“LadyLike has phenomenal style, elegance and tastefulness. There are few magazines dedicated to our lifestyle that are done with the sensitivity and glamour of LadyLike.” - Carole, MA.

“...by now you are used to all the rave reviews for LadyLike. But before you get tired of all the applause, let me add my accolades as well. Everything about the issue from photography to articles to advice is simply first rate.” - Dianne, MD.

Mail like this just makes me feel so good inside and it lets me know I'm doing my job properly. Thanks for the encouragement.

I remember talking with the publisher of an TV monthly just after we sent the Premier issue to the printer. He told me that LL wouldn't fly, not enough interest, he said. Well, not only did we prove him wrong, but now we have imitators. Competition is good for you, the reader. It means I have to work harder to keep you interested in *LadyLike* instead of one of the other mags.

This issue has some special features that need highlighting. First, it has two profiles again. Your letters indicate that you really like this feature a lot, so, we're going to continue with two per issue. Next, we have a review of the stage work of Charles Busch by Daniel M.T. Graham. Mr. Busch is one of the leading male actresses currently working in legitimate theater. Next time you're in New York, try to catch *Vampires Lesbians of Sodom*. It's a scream. Next issue we'll have an interview with a British performer, Dave Lynn, by Phaedra Kelly. If you like these professional interviews, let us know and we'll pursue others.

We've got Paula Sinclair pouring over freshly printed issues of *Vogue* and *W* in order to bring you her glamour and fashion forecast each issue and, in the meantime, I'm kept busy at the reference library finding answers to all your questions for Girl Talk. The jury is still out on *The Incredible Shrinking Tran*. How about it? Would you like to see more fiction like this?

I'd like to mention another publication that, I feel, is the perfect compliment to *LadyLike* called *Gender Expressions*. Where we're the flash and glitz, they're the serious educational and political side of the transgender phenomena. Check out their address in the *Resources* section and in case you're wondering, yes, I'm on their editorial board too.

JoAnn Roberts

”

Ladylike

Issue #6

In This Issue . . .

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LadyLike's

PROFILE

NAME: JoAnn Roberts, Ph.D.

AGE: 41

PROFESSION: Scientist, Author, Publisher

RESIDENCE: Philadelphia suburbs

HEIGHT: 5' 6"

WEIGHT: 165

MEASUREMENTS: 38-30-40, Size 14

SHOE SIZE: 10B

FAVORITE THINGS

SHOE STYLE: High heel pump

PERFUME: Obsession

MOVIE: Alien & Aliens

MUSIC: Hard Rock: Queen, Heart, Vixen

STYLES: Classically fashionable & leather

PLACE: Behind the wheel of a '65 Vette

Turn-Ons: Women, seamed stockings, fast cars, sci-fi, sexy clothes, music, computers

Turn-Offs: Drugs, prejudice, hypocrisy, telephone sales, intentional ignorance



JoAnn Roberts

LadyLike: *Well, everyone knows you're the editor of this magazine, so tell us a little about how you got involved with it.*

JoAnn Roberts: My wife and I were in New Orleans for Mardi Gras and I met this really neat guy through some mutual friends. We were all going out for dinner and David and I got to talking. It turned out that he was already publishing a couple of fetish oriented magazines but he had this idea about doing a really classy TV magazine. He'd gotten a lot of feedback from readers of his other mags and they wanted something different, fresh. He had the idea and the means but he wasn't sure how to connect with our community. That's where I came into the picture.

We saw each other a couple of times over Mardi Gras and I guess we just hit it off right. I felt he was sincere in his goals for the maga-

zine and I guess he trusted my judgement on what would sell. We agreed on just about every point in the overall design of the publication. I figured what did I have to lose?

LL: *Did you know anything about publishing or editing a magazine?*

JR: No, I had no experience at all with magazines but I had written, printed and distributed my own book on crossdressing so I thought it wouldn't be that different. I was wrong about that but I've managed to learn a lot in two years.

I did bring some skills along though. David still does some mechanical paste-up but *LadyLike* is done mostly on a computer. Most all the text and graphics you see in the magazine is done on a Macintosh and a laser printer. Then it goes directly to offset print.



JoAnn does her imitation of a glamour queen

LL: *Okay, now tell us about you. Where and when did JoAnn Roberts come into existence?*

JR: Like many TVs, I started crossdressing when I was pre-teen. It was very erotic and very pleasurable. I would crossdress, at least partially, and masturbate. Then I would feel tremendously guilty about it. That went on for a long time. I didn't even know the word "transvestite" existed.

When I was about 18 I saw Virginia Prince on a television talk show and that was a major milestone for me. I realized I wasn't alone and there were others like me in the world. I still did not admit to anyone that I was a TV, not even my fiancé.

Later, when I was about 32, I was living in the San Francisco Bay Area and I saw another television show called *Front Line Video*. This was live television and the first show was about transvestism and transsexualism. The people on the show were refreshingly honest about their dressing and their feelings. After

the show I promised myself I wasn't going to be ashamed of myself anymore. Furthermore, I was going to explore my feminine side fully. I think I scared the Hell out of my wife then, but we're still together.

LL: *Being married to a TV can't be easy, especially to one so visible as yourself. How do you and your wife cope with your dressing.*

JR: It isn't easy. People write to me and say, "Oh, JoAnn, you're so lucky to have an understanding wife." Yes, I am lucky, but it isn't all peaches and cream. We've had to work very hard at this relationship. We've had to make a lot of compromises, some that other couples just wouldn't be willing to make. I have a lot of rules to follow about how I can leave the house and how I can come back home. If my wife isn't comfortable in a given situation then it's going to be tough on me too.

We've had our bad times, but we've had a lot of good times too. It evens out eventually.



A casual outfit for clubbing.

LL: You were the founder of the Renaissance group in Philadelphia. Tell us about that.

JR: Renaissance had its roots in the Joyce Dewhurst Pocono weekends. That was where I started to meet other TVs like Madam X, Denise Mason, Kelly Sheridan and Morgan Stevens. They were so warm and friendly and I was so scared and naive. They kind of took me under their collective wings and taught me what real friendship was about.

I met Trudi Henry at a Pocono weekend. She was the first TV I ever met who really lived close by. Soon after I met Trudi, I met Angela Gardner through an ad in *Tapestry*. She lived close by too. So I started to think that there must be more like us in the metropolitan Philadelphia area. Yet, there was no support group here. There was one in New Jersey and I went to one meeting. I didn't care for it much but I met the final two building blocks for Renaissance there; Alison Laing and Melanie Bryan. Within three months we were plan-



Check out those legs!



JoAnn says, "If you got it, flaunt it!"

ning our first meeting. So, I was the catalyst that got Renaissance started but technically it has five founders.

I couldn't be more pleased with the growth of the group and I was right about there being a lot more people like me around. The Philadelphia chapter alone has about 135 members. The total membership is pushing 300.

LL: What are some of the other activities you're involved in related to crossdressing?

JR: Well, there's the Renaissance newsletter. I'm the senior editor. Then there's my business **Creative Design Services** which publishes books for the TV/TS community, and I'm also the Special Projects editor for a magazine called *Gender Expressions*.

CDS just published *Speaking As A Woman*, a book on feminine speech and I'm working on a third edition of my book *Art & Illusion*.

LL: Tell us a little about how and why you wrote your book. Has it sold well?

JR: Crossdressing can get to be expensive, especially if, like me, you have a weakness for sequins and leather. So I was looking for a way to make some money to pay for clothes, makeup and to go to the different TV events around the country.

A couple of things just fell into place at the right time. I love to write and I do it for a living. I had just gotten a Macintosh computer at work and someone gave me a copy of the first PageMaker® program. It didn't take long to figure out that desktop publishing was going to make it easy for a lot of people to get their ideas into print and I could be one of them.

I started drafting a makeup manual for TVs and I showed it to a couple of friends. They liked it and I kept working at it and expanding it. The only other book like it was Virginia Prince's but it hadn't been updated in 15 years.



At the Poconos with friend Denise Mason (CDS photo)

I published the first edition in October of 1985. The second edition followed in January of 1987. So far it's sold over 3000 copies worldwide. The third edition will be out in 1990 sometime and it will have photos added along with the drawings. I'm trying to keep the price the same.

LL: Your name is fairly well known in the TV/TS community now. Has that brought any problems with it?

JR: Yes it has, sadly. I've managed to upset a few of the other leaders in the community. I've taken a very strong stand against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender role. That has earned me the sobriquet of "crusader" and "meddler." But that's okay, someone has to be the loyal opposition.

We have a history of letting people rip us off because we don't want to be exposed as crossdressers. We have also let other people do our talking and thinking for us for the same



At a rehearsal, JoAnn waits off-stage (CDS photo)



JoAnn belts out a song at the Poconos (CDS photo)

reason. Well, I don't like that. I can think and speak for myself and I believe all of us should do the same. I get really upset when I see some out-of-town TV on a talk show trying to sell the audience that it's "only a hobby." That implies we have a choice. Let's be honest with ourselves, we do it because it feels good, both emotionally and sexually.

LL: *What's the good part about recognition?*

JR: I love reading the mail. I usually get a couple of letters a week asking for help and advice on makeup or how to tell a spouse about crossdressing. These make it all worthwhile.

There are still a lot of people out there hiding in their closets. If my writing helps them out of it, then my existence as a TV has some purpose, some value. I've been able to take an activity that used to cause me much guilt and turn into one that gives me much joy. It's hard to ask for much more than that.

LL: *On a personal level, we can't help but notice your long nails and plucked eyebrows. Doesn't that make it hard for you at work?*

JR: I guess it depends on your attitude. I simply don't care what they think at work. If they were to worry that the length of my nails makes me less effective as an employee, I'd probably quit.

As it is, there are a lot of people who know about JoAnn. One woman at work saw me on *Donahue* back in 1986 and recognized my voice. Since then we've become very close friends. She borrowed a pair of my heels once to attend a wedding. We go Christmas shopping together at the mall for our spouses. It is really nice to have a real female friend to share this with. We're just regular girlfriends.

Overall, my attitude is: I like me the way I am. If you don't, then you're the one with the problem. Why do you feel this need to make people conform? It knocks 'em off guard.



JoAnn, Eric-Mr Magic (c) and Blair (r) (CDS photo)

Girl Talk



Girl Talk is your forum. Any question on any topic is fair game from makeup secrets to the psychology of gender transpositions. If you have a question for JoAnn, write to her care of this magazine

Dear JoAnn,

I have some bad acne scars on my face and it is very pitted. My makeup looks pretty bad most of the time. Have you heard about collagen injections?

Randy P., New Mexico

Dear Randy,

Collagen injection is the currently preferred treatment for deeply wrinkled or scarred skin. Collagen is a natural product of the body. It is what keeps our skin taut. When collagen breaks down, as a result of the aging process or due to damage like acne,

wrinkles or scars can appear. If new collagen is injected under the skin, the wrinkle or scar can be plumped up.

Collagen treatments are not permanent. First of all, the doctors don't use human collagen. The most common source is from cows, or bovine collagen. Since this is a foreign material, your body is going to work to break it down. When that happens it needs to be replaced. You might also have a reaction to the bovine collagen. Candidates are usually screened for sensitivity first.

It may take several treatments to fill all your scars and each injection costs between \$200 and \$300 dollars. Needless to say, this is **not** covered under your medical plan.

Dear JoAnn.

How do I figure out what size dress, skirt or blouse I should wear?

Carrie, MN

Dear Carrie,

Answering your question is compounded by two problems. One: clothing fits differently depending on cut, style and manufacturer. Even two dresses in the same style will not fit exactly the same. Two: the manufacturers keep changing the size charts. For example, a person with measurements of 36-28-38 would wear a size 14 today, but in 1948 it would have been a size 20!

That's good news and bad news. If you are buying new clothing it is more likely to fit you because the average American woman is getting larger, all around. That is the good part. It's bad news if you like to do your shopping in thrift stores or antique clothing shops. They'll be too small.

Anyway, here are the current size charts.

MISSES SIZES

SIZE	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
Bust	32½	34	36	38	40	42	44	46
Waist	25	26½	28	30	32	34	36	38
Hips	34½	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
Back Length	16	16¼	16½	16¾	17	17¼	17½	17¾

N.B. petite sizes are about 1" shorter in back length

WOMEN'S SIZES

OLD SIZE	34	36	38	40	42	44	46
NEW SIZE	16W	18W	20W	22W	24W	26W	28W
Bust	38	40	42	44	46	48	50
Waist	32	34	36	38	41	43	46
Hips	39	41	43	45	47	49	51
Back Length	17¼	17⅜	17½	17⅝	17¾	17⅞	18

HALF SIZES

OLD SIZE	12½	14½	16½	18½	20½	22½	24½
NEW SIZE	12WP	14WP	16WP	18WP	20WP	22WP	24WP
Bust	35	37	39	41	43	45	47
Waist	29	31	33	35	37	39	41
Hips	37	37	41	43	45½	48	50½
Back Length	15¼	15½	15¾	15⅞	16	16⅞	16¼

Dear JoAnn.

After a few hours my makeup looks shiny and starts to run, especially around my upper lip. Any tips?

Tracy, CA

Dear Tracy,

Sounds like you have oily skin. Oily skin doesn't wrinkle easily, but it also doesn't hold makeup very well. That's why it is so important to use a moisturizer before applying your foundation. Moisturizer helps to seal in the skin's moisture and also oils. Before you apply the moisturizer, clean your face with a mild astringent like witch hazel. Then apply the moisturizer. Wipe off the excess and let it set for a minute or two. Then apply founda-

tion. The problem with your upper lip might be a combination of oil and perspiration. Try this trick. Use an anti-perspirant on your upper lip before applying the moisturizer. It works, especially in the summertime.

After you apply your foundation set it with loose powder. If there is a theatrical supply house near you that sells stage makeup, there is now a finishing powder from Ben Nye that has an anti-perspirant mixed into it. Remember, those newscasters have to work under very hot lights and they perspire too.

Dear JoAnn,

I have a slight build with no curves at all. How can I create a slinky shape?

Melanie, AK

Dear Melanie,

Some people would say you really don't have a problem. You can never be too thin or too rich. Be that as it may, you need to broaden your shoulder line and add curvy hips for an hourglass figure. The hips can be added with a padded panty girdle. Fredericks of Hollywood makes several versions. The shoulder line can be enhanced through the judicious use of shoulder pads. There are pads that attach to your bra straps so they can be worn under any clothes. Just remember to keep the pads in proportion to your hips. You don't want to look like a football player. Also, be sure that the bra inserts you use are in proportion to your overall figure.

The clothing you wear is important too. The best dress styles for your figure are ones with strong shoulder lines and fullness below the waist. Boat necks, wide shawl collars and lapels will also look good. Fabric is a key element. Choose a dense texture or a sturdy weave that will pad your curves.

Dear JoAnn,

I'm a black TV. Is there makeup just for black women?

Tisha, AL

Dear Tisha,

Yes, there are makeup lines just for black women. Black skin is more sensitive to break-outs and rashes than Caucasian skin and black skin is more likely to be blotchy or uneven. There are now foundations that can camouflage or even out patchy pigmentation.

Montaj cosmetics, developed by actress Shari Belafonte, has ten shades of foundation for black skin. The foundations in Naomi Sim's cosmetic line have a yellow base instead of the red or orange base used for Caucasian skin, and there are matching matte powders.

More recognizable names have added foundations for black skin. Esté Lauder has six new shades of Fresh Air Makeup for blacks and Princess Borghese (my favorite) has five

new shades in their Hydro-Minerali line of foundations. Finally, be sure to match the foundation to your skin type. Use a water based foundation on oily skin and an oil based foundation on dry skin.

Dear JoAnn,

I have to wear glasses. My eyes are so bad I can't wear contacts. Any advice on choosing frames?

Cynthia, OH

Dear Cynthia,

You should choose eyeglass frames based on your face shape. If you have an oval face you're lucky because you can wear just about any frame shape except extreme geometrics. If you have a round face, you want the frames to slim and lengthen it. Choose a square frame that is slightly wider than your face. If you have an oblong or rectangular face, you want to shorten it and add width. Choose a low triangular or round shape. Keep the width within the borders of your face. Finally, if you have a square face, you want to soften the angles and maybe add some length. Choose round or heart shaped frames that are slightly wider than your face.

Dear JoAnn,

My organization has asked me to do a college lecture. I'm very excited at the prospect, but I'm not sure how to change my makeup for daytime. Any tips?

Shari, FL

Dear Shari,

The best advice I can give you is to lighten up on everything. In strong daylight you don't need to do as much contouring and highlighting as you would at night. Your eyes don't need to be as dramatic either. You should be safe if you choose colors that are warm and in different shades of brown. Try this combination; lemon yellow on the browbone, buff or tan in the crease and on the lid, and cocoa smudged at the outer lid and under the eyes.

Use a soft brown eyeliner and smudge it so there is not a definite line. Also, use a soft brown mascara. Lighten up your lips with a coral shade and use a rosy blush.

Letters to JoAnn

Dear JoAnn,

In the last issue you gave a list of companies that sell large size shoes. That was great but most of them don't sell really high heels. I've found a place that does. Jim Leslie at *Sexy Shoes* is interested in our business. You can get his catalog by writing to P.O. Box 48, Rodgers City, MI 49779, or call 517-734-4030 from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. (yes, 1 a.m.) Eastern Time. Almost all the shoes go up to size 12 and the heel heights range from 3½ inches to almost 5 inches. His prices are very reasonable, about the same as you would find in a mall.

Michelle, MI

Dear Michelle,

Thanks for sharing that with us and I appreciate the catalog you sent along. The shoes really are very sexy and I'm sure our readers appreciate the information.

Dear JoAnn,

I discovered *LadyLike* with issue #1 and found it to be great. I am 32 years old and live near Amiens, 110 kilometers north of Paris. Unlike you there in the U.S., we in Europe, especially in France, have very little help and support. To my knowledge, there are only two associations in all of France. One called "Christ Liberatuer" is run by a pastor. He sells books, gives interviews and performs marriages between gays, all with much publicity. It is not very satisfactory to me. The other one is called the Association Beaumont Continental (ABC) of which I am a member. ABC counts a hundred members scattered all over the

country, with a majority in Paris. They have a bulletin that is published about two times a year. There is no place run by the association so there are no meeting in the Paris area. Contact with other members is difficult and a lot, like me, are alone. The bulletin also does not help with information about where to buy clothing, etc.

ABC has its equivalents in a few other countries. They are; TRANSIDENTIAS, Postfach 101046, D 6050 Offenbach 1, West Germany, KONTAKTFORUM FEMME TRAVESTIE, Postfach 6788, CH 80233, Zurich Switzerland, and F.P.E., c/o Turid Vang, Postboks 1968, N 0125 Oslo, Norway.

I will finish this letter by telling all *LadyLike* readers that I would be glad to correspond with all you girls. It would be great for me to have contact with you. Write to A. Guillaume, Poste Restante, Rosieres, 80A0, France.

Sincerely, Joelle.

Dear Joelle,

Thanks for letting us see just how lucky we are here in the U.S. to have so many options for support. I'm sure there are many readers who will be writing to you. Please stay in touch. (Editor's note: See Joelle's photo in the Mirror-Mirror section of this issue.)

That wraps it for this issue. Keep writing. This is your forum and I love reading mail.

Hugs, JoAnn



Resources

LadyLike will try to keep an up-to-date listing of support groups and sympathetic businesses.

Please let us know of any additions or corrections.

Groups are classified as: (o)=open, TV/TS; (c)=closed, hetero TV only; or (TS) TS only.

• National Organizations •

International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE), Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778, Publishes "TV/TS Tapestry". Reprints and books on TV/TS subjects, other info. 617-899-2212.

Outreach Institute, Box 368, Kenmore Station, Boston, MA 02215. General TV/TS information for personal and professional use. Hard to find books.

Renaissance Education Association, Inc., Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA 19406, 215-640-9449, \$12 membership fee includes monthly newsletter. Background Papers on TV/TS issues for personal and professional use. Speakers Bureau. Inquire about chapters.

Society for the Second Self (SSS), Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275. Organization for Hetero-TVs only. Publishes "Femme Mirror". Inquire about chapters.

•Organizations by State•

City, Name, Address, Zipcode, Phone

Alaska
Anchorage, Berdache Society, Box 113162, 99511

Arizona
Tempe, Alpha-Zeta SSS(c), Box 24459, 85285

Scottsdale, A Rose(o), Box 4351, 85261

California
Duarte, CHIC(c), Box 562, 91010, 213-456-6511

Fullerton, Powder Puffs of Orange County(o), Box 3002, 92634

Los Angeles, Alpha Chapter SSS(c), Box 36091, 90036

Sacramento, Sacramento Gender Assoc(o), Box 38918, 95401

San Diego, Neutral Corner(o), Box 12581, 92112

San Francisco, ETVC(o), Box 6486, 94101

San Jose, Rainbow Gender Association(o), Box 700730, 95170

Santa Monica, Androgyny, 513 Wilshire Rd, Suite 245, 90401

Tulare, Omega Chapter SSS(c), Box 194, 93275

Ventura, Delta Chi SSS(c), Box 6394, 93006

Connecticut

Devon, ConnecticutView(o), Box 2281, 06460

Florida

Hollywood, Serenity(o), Box 307, 33022

Kissimmee, Central Florida Sisters(o), 11 Westchester Dr. 34744

Georgia

Atlanta, Sigma Epsilon SSS(c), Box 55144, 30308

Illinois

Chicago, Chicago Gender Society(o), Box 578005, 60657, 312-231-8923

Springfield, Chameleons Club, 505 West Vine St., 62704

Wood Dale, Chi Chapter SSS(c), Box 40, 60191, 312-364-9514

Indiana

Indianapolis, IXE(o), Box 20710, 46220

Springfield, Chameleon Club, 505 W. Vine St., 62704

Louisiana

New Orleans, Renaissance Chapter (o), P.O Box 58428, 70158-8428

Maine

Portland, Transupport, Box 1762, 04101, 207-854-3528

Massachusetts

Springfield, The Twenty (XX) Club(TS), Box 80690, Forrest Park Station, 01138

Allston, Tiffany Club(o), Box 266, 02134

Michigan

Grand Rapids, W. Michigan I.M.E.(o), Box 1153, 9501

Royal Oak, Crossroads(o), Box 1245, 48068

Minnesota

Minneapolis, CLCC(o), Box 16265, 55416, 612-822-9726

St. Paul, MFGE(o), Box 17945, 55117

Mississippi

Jackson, Beta Chi Tri-Ess(c), Box 31253, 39206, 601-362-4549.

Nebraska

Omaha, River City(o), Box 1305

Bellevue, NE 68005

Omaha, RCR(c), Box 24060, 68124

New Jersey

Trenton, SNR SSS(c), Box 9255, 08650

Morristown, Northern NJ SSS(c), Box 9192, 07960

Nevada

Las Vegas, Double Image(o), Box 71795, 89170

New York

Albany, TGIC(o), Box 13604, 12212, 518-436-4513

Camillus, EON(o), Box 6293, 13031

Endicott, Butterfly Group(o), Box 7161, 13760, 607-798-8033

Massapequa Park, CDM Tri-Ess(c), Box 327, 11762, 201-663-0772

Ozone Park, LIFE (c), Box 121, 11416

Ohio

Cincinnati, Cross-Port(o), Box 12701, 45212

Elyria, Alpha-Omega SSS(c), Box 954, 44036

Parma, Paradise Club(o), Box 29564, 44129

Reynoldsburg, Crystal Club, Box 287, 43068

Oregon

Portland, North West Gender Alliance(o), Box 4928, 97208.

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, TS Support Group, Box 15836, 19103, 215-387-2825

Philadelphia, Renaissance Chapter (o), Box AD, Bensalem, PA 19406

Reading, Renaissance Chapter (o), Box 14421, 19612

Pittsburgh, TransPitt(o), Box 3214, 15230, 412-781-0257

York, Renaissance Chapter (o), Box 7412, 17404

Texas

Austin, Heart of Texas TV, Box 402, 78767

Garland, Delta Omega Tri-Ess(c), Box

Resources

461401, 75406
Houston, Gulf Coast TV Chapter(o),
Box 441754, TX 77244

Richmond, Tau Chi Tri-Ess(c), Box
533, 77469

San Antonio, B&P Society(o), Box
169652, 78280, 512-691-8915

Virginia

Alexandria, DCEA(o), Box 11254, Lin-
colnia Station, 22312

Washington

Portland, NW Gender Alliance(o), Box
4928, 97208, 503-641-6736

Seattle, Emerald City(o), Box 31318,
98103

•Canadian•

Alberta, Alberta Contact Club(o), Box
4667, Station C, Calgary, T2T-5P1

British Columbia, Cornbury Society(o),
Box 3745, Vancouver, V6B-3Z1

Owen Sound, Ontario TV Club(o), Box
682, Ontario, N4K 5P1

Toronto, Transition Support (TS), 1002
Woodbine, Ontario, M4C-4C1

•Overseas•

New Zealand, TransCare, c/o The Mi-
norities Trust, Box 2983, Wellington

Republic of So. Africa, Phoenix Society,
Box 375, Parow, 7500

Scotland, Scottish TV/TS group, c/o
SHRG, 58a Broughton St., Edinburgh,
EH1-35A

UK, Essex, TransEssex, Box 3, Basil-
don, SS14 1PT,

•Information Services•

CA, San Juan Capistrano, J2CP Infor-
mation Services, TS info, Box 184,
92693

CT, Manchester, Gender Identity Clinic
of New England, TS info, 68 Adelaide
Rd., 06040

MA, N. Dartmouth, Gender Informa-
tion Services, TS info, Box 9238, 02747

Quebec, Hamilton, FACT(TS), Box
291, Station "A", Ontario, L8N-3C8

Quebec, Toronto, Gender Worker Serv-
ices, Box 1224, Station "A", Ontario,
M6W-1G7

•Boutiques & Businesses•

CA, Glendale, NS Products (Mirage
Breast Forms), Box 6678-L, 91205

CA, Mt. View, B&R Creations (Corse-
try), Box 4201-L, 94040

CA, Sherman Oaks, Lydia's TV Fash-
ions, 13837 Ventura Blvd., Suite 2,
91423, 818-995-7195.

CA, Tustin, Versatile Fashions, Box
1051, 92681

CA, Woodland Hills, Fantasy Fashions,
22968 Victory Blvd., Suite 196, 91367

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NY, NYC, J.L. White, image improve-
ment and development, 212-675-0204

NY, NYC, Mardi Gras Boutique, 400 W.
14th St. at 8th Ave., 212-947-7773

NY, NYC, Mary Ann Calega, private
counseling, 212-929-6345

•Recurring Events•

Be All You Can Be Weekend, put on by
Paradise Club, Crossroads, Trans-Pitt
and The Chi Chapter of SSS. Usually in
June. Contact any of the groups men-
tioned.

Fantasia Fair, 10 days, once a year in
October, in Provincetown, MA. Out-
reach Institute, Box 368, Kenmore Sta-
tion, Boston, MA., 02215.

IFGE Convention, once a year, moves
around the country. Contact IFGE.

Paradise in the Poconos, 4 days/
3 nights, twice a year, May and Septem-
ber, in the Pa. Poconos. CDS, Box 1263,
King of Prussia, PA 19406.

Texas 'T' Party, San Antonio, Texas, 3
day weekend "en femme", B&P Soci-
ety, Box 169652, San Antonio, TX
78280, 512-657-2540.

Tiffany Provincetown Outings, twice a
year in Oct & June, Tiffany Club, Box
367, Wayland, MA 01778.

• Periodicals •

En Femme Magazine and En Femme
Comics, Box 7854, West Trenton, NJ
08628, \$30/year

Femarine, Tania Volen Inc., 200 Main
St., Tennent, NJ., 07763. \$30/yr

Gender Expressions, 6A Glenville Ave.
Allston Ave., MA 02143, \$30/yr.

Kitara, Box 172, Gurnee, IL 60031, \$10

The Transie Times, TTT, 566 Parlia-
ment St., Ste. 3375, Toronto, Ont.,
M4X-1P8, \$36/yr.

Transsexual Voice, Box 16314, At-
lanta, GA 30321, \$12/yr

Transvestian, Tania Volen Inc., 200
Main St., Tennent, NJ., 07763. \$18/yr

TV/TS Talk, Box 6322, Minneapolis,
MN 55406, \$21/yr

TV/TS Tapestry, IFGE, Box 367, Way-
land, MA 01778, \$10 per issue.

• Resource Databases •

Crossdresser's International Shopping
Guide, John Moran Photo-Graphix, P.
O. Box 7217, Burbank, CA 91510-
7217, 48 pages of TV oriented ads for
businesses, \$10 postpaid. Free listings.

The International Fetish Resource Da-
tabase, Ataraxia International, P. O.
Box 222-LL, Gorham, New York
14461, computer print out of over 500
fetish-oriented firms & organizations.
Emphasis is on rubber, leather and PVC.
\$25 postpaid. Free personal listings.

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GETTING HIGH

No, Not Drugs! Heels! Very, Very High Heels! Can't Live With Them And Can't Live Without Them? Veronica Anderson Tells Why!

Comment - by Veronica Anderson

I have a definite Jeckel and Hyde personality when it comes to my high heels. The Doctor Jeckel in me is a realist. She loves the fashion aspect of a smart shoe with a tall, slim heel, but her good sense and practicality about comfort and mobility keep her a little closer to the ground than I would like. She is definitely no "slave" to fashion! But on the other hand, or foot, the wild-eyed, wanton Miss Hyde in me is all too happy to enslave herself to the pleasure and pain of teetering in 5 and 6 inch fuck me footwear! She's a heel tramp! She's a slut for stilettos! She's crippled but delighted, and she keeps me guessing about myself.

Does this in anyway sound familiar? If you're like me, it should. I've been permanently vexed by my love for high heels as long as I can remember. In some ways I can't live with them, but I most definitely can't live without them! It's like a madcap marriage; the passionate throes of slipping into your favorite, dainty pumps, slimming and beautifying your foot, forcing it into a delicious arch and making you aware of your entire posture, your every step, but at the same time cramping your toes, cutting in to your instep, and aching your ankles.

So why punish myself? I don't think I need to answer that. You know why, if you have ever worn heels. A 5 inch stiletto, pushing your foot stylishly towards the heavens, flattering your foot in a trendy style, is one of the simplest and most satisfying ways of changing from him to her. The sheer delight of click-clicking around on high heels, preferably with seamed hose, is sexy, sensuous and sintilating. Just be ready to massage the blood back into your toe afterwards!

There are certainly pros and cons to wearing high heels, as I'm sure you've noticed by now. And I've found that the pros outweigh the cons tenfold if you consider three simple steps when buying a new pair of heels.

1) SIZE & FIT

Nothing is worse than shoes that don't fit. Well,

there is one thing. HIGH HEELS THAT DON'T FIT! Remember, we were brought up in sneakers, loafers and other assorted low-heeled, masculine footwear. Then, with our awakening feme side the desire for feminine heels, usually high heels, raised it's "lovely" head. Too often excitement takes over for good sense and we buy something that doesn't fit right. Don't let that happen! Buy right! Make sure to get a good fit (not too small) and choose a shoe style that accomodates the type of foot you have. Only a masochist stuffs a triple E foot in a triple A pump!

2) HEEL HEIGHT

This is important. Feet are different. Some people have much more arch in their foot than others. Just because you WANT to wear 6 inch heels doesn't necessarily mean that you CAN! If all you want to do is dress up, just to go to bed . . . Hell, wear 60 inch heels! But if you want to be able to walk, I mean actually walk around like a normal human being, without clenching your teeth or needing training wheels, I suggest you try different heel heights to find what works for you and still looks tall, sexy and feminine.

3) HEEL SHAPE & STRENGTH

In case you've forgotten, most of us "girls" ain't exactly 103 pounds and light on our feet! The bimbo stilts you see in the Frederick's catalogue, with a heel so high and thin that it's barely there, are not what the podiatrist ordered for a six foot TV that dresses out at 190! Use your head. Choose a heel that will support your weight. The bigger you are, the more that little spike has to support. If you don't know how to carry your weight squarely, balanced, and with the emphasis of each step up on the ball of your foot, you're liable to find yourself in some pretty funny looking flats quicker than you can shout "Look Out Below!"

Enjoy your heels, Girls. Just remember to use a little common sense. You and your heels can be a love/hate relationship that's bound to keep you on your toes!



For A More Glamorous You



By Paula Sinclair

Why couture? Why all the talk (more than 1,200 pages of press coverage, not counting this column) about the seasonal creations of 22 Paris fashion houses which combined only have between two and three thousand clients? Why all the concern about clothes in the five-figure price range? The answer is both mundane and sublime: merchandising and art.

In a very real sense, haute couture is a metaphor for an entire industry that deals with illusion and appearances, yet keeps a close eye on the bottom line. "Couture is not a matter of how much you sell, but of how much you win back in terms of promotion," said Jean-Jacques Picart, the business partner of Christian Lacroix. The publicity surrounding the seasonal shows in Paris "creates a dynamism," he explained. "It's impossible to make a profit with haute couture." It's no secret, then, that couture is as much hype as it is haute. So what importance is there in a \$18,000 dress except as a source for dreams or for \$6,500 line-for-line copies produced on Seventh Avenue? This is where art comes into frame.

Every season each house produces beautiful clothes, finely made from the most marvelous of fabrics. And most seasons, this output has more to do with skill than artistic vision. Once in a great while the couture collections break free from being mere fashion designs and enter the realm of TRUTH, at least as close to truth as art can come. Fashion commentators are saying that this was one of those seminal years. And as examples, they are pointing to four couturiers—Lacroix, Yves Saint Laurent, Carl Lagerfeld for the House of Chanel and Valentino, who is generally considered an Italian designer, but who captivated the Paris audiences this past summer. While

only a few thousand women will be wearing the actual clothes shown on the Paris runways, the impact of these four shows will affect the way women (and others) dress into the next decade. This is because these collections will leave their mark on designers everywhere.

While it is not possible to make a profit with haute couture as Picart of the House of Lacroix observed, it is possible to make a reputation. The Lacroix poufs and wild mixing of bright colors and pattern thrust the young designer's name into headlines around the world. While his clothes were exciting and fun to look at, they were no fun to wear and even less fun to cram into a closet. The collapse of the pouf, some thought, would bring about the collapse of the house. But with his fall and winter show, Lacroix has managed to temper excitement and opulence with precision. These are clothes for the individual who seeks to attract attention with a well-turned, elegant (perhaps surprising) phrase: not with a shout or a shriek. They are romantic clothes in the sense that romanticism means an emphasis on the imagination and the emotions. The clothes are frankly sexy, but without the blatant eroticism of, say, a Bob Mackie number for Cher. The Lacroix mannequins were obviously aware of their feminine charms, but they did not advertise them. They carried themselves in a way that said "Look, but don't touch (unless I want you to)." If Lacroix's vision for the 90s comes to pass, women who wish to dress sensually and individually, but not provocatively, can do so with style.

Saint Laurent, presented a collection that was everything Lacroix's was and *wasn't*. While Lacroix's creations bordered on the Rococo, those of Saint Laurent were often Minimalist. Or as Bernadine Morris of *The New York Times* wrote, "his clothes were so relaxed they made the others look overblown." The Saint Laurent collection for day featured simple chemises (some of them topped with shawls almost the size of capes) and simple pants suits that were clearly practical yet clearly feminine. For evening wear, the Saint Laurent models wore gowns made of colorful metallic brocades. Throughout the collection, the artist's excellent eye for color was readily apparent. It is a testimony to his artistry that while he drew his inspiration from everything from Bavaria to Botticelli, the collection was forward-looking rather than nostalgic. If you want to see what women will be wearing into the next century, look to Saint Laurent. Look to him, but don't blame him. The 1989 pants suits recalled his shows in the late 1960s when he first moved the fashion world with collections heavy with pants. While he liberated women from skirts, he was also indirectly responsible for the knock-off pants suits and ensembles that form the core of the Lane Bryant collection. Such is the power of couture even in the "wrong" hands. We live with the results everyday.

Interpreting the works of another designer can be tricky, but not for Karl Lagerfeld who was hired by the House of Chanel five years ago to design its couture collection. As Lagerfeld

frankly admits, he submerges his creativity into the enduring personality of Coco Chanel. But the submission is not total. Or, to quote Lagerfeld quoting Goethe, "To make a better future, you must enlarge elements of the past." The Chanel look is so well-known, so often replicated, that one only has to describe Lagerfeld's latest departure from the standard. Jackets are less boxy, drawn closed to the waist and rounded over the hips. Yet they still sport the signature gold buttons and chains. Softly draped skirts, this time in a variety of lengths, hearken back to an earlier Chanel. But some jackets were long enough to allow Lagerfeld to dispense with a skirt all together. While Chanel herself was not universally honored during a creative career that spanned nearly five decades, her styles are now revered. By interpreting the Chanel cannon with traditional couture chic, wit, whimsy and a bit of abandon, Lagerfeld has secured his place for the following decades.

Traditionally, there have been four fashion centers; Paris is clearly in the lead followed by, in order of national preference, New York, Italy and London. Until very recently, each had its own special forté. But those specialized reputations have begun to fall apart with the successful Paris showings by Italian designers, most notably Valentino Garavani. At the close of his second showing, critics were placing him in the pantheon with Saint Laurent and Chanel. And just as Saint Laurent broke new ground 20 years ago with his pants suits, Valentino may have given fashion a new frame of reference in terms of decorative patterns and fabrics. Instead of florals and plaids, almost everything in the Valentino collection—from sweaters to ball gowns—bore bold geometric designs inspired by the early years of the Modernism movement that predated yet anticipated Art Deco. But like Saint Laurent and Lagerfeld, Valentino is not a slave to the past. Nor was he different just for the sake of being different. While his clothes were Modernistic in decoration, they were ultra modern in line. Another vision for the future was contained in his "double" coats, jackets, and capes. Often designed to combine the best qualities of the two individual layers of different fabrics, such as the double-faced cashmere fleece and knitted capes, some of the clothes also proved to be totally reversible for a dramatic change from day to evening. This is not a new idea, but Valentino made it work in a chic manner.

There are more than a score haute couture houses, and each presented a collection. Add to those the out of town designers for whom a Paris show is more of an ego trip, and there were literally thousands of dresses, suits and gowns hawked from the runways. But the majority were simply pretty clothes.



One trend from the Paris runways that has jumped the Atlantic is the fling—a large wrap worn around the shoulders with just about everything from sweaters and pants to outerwear and evening gowns. Naturally, the fabric and line varies with the basic ensemble: cashmere or wool for day, velvet, satin or fur for evening. This versatility makes them the perfect way to give a new touch to a classic dress or suit that still has many wearings left. Just remember that this year, flings work best when they blend in with the ensemble. But whatever they

are made of and whenever they are worn, the new flings must be large—sometimes even oversize—to underscore their role as more than an accessory.

Wearing the new flings that can be as big as a blanket takes a certain knack, not to mention a certain aplomb. But then again, clutching daintily at a wrap has a certain feminine grace if first practiced in front of a mirror. Those who don't like constantly fussing with their clothes are urged to wear flings made of wool or knitted cashmere, Calvin Klein's fabric of choice.



Another tip from the Paris shows for a sophisticated look, is the snood. Webster defines a snood as a bag for holding the hair. That definition is an insult to the many French women who were seen at this season's shows with their coiffure falling gently at the neck neatly contained in a gossamer web of silk.

Like many lost arts, wearing a snood requires some lessons. Your hairstyle must be the type that would normally require a headband across the crown. Otherwise you'll look like you are wearing a hairnet to conform with health department regulations. Slip the snood over the hair cascading from the top and back of the head. Secure the snood with two hair pins at the top of the head. Cover the hairpins with a tied ribbon around the head with a flat bow on top.

Even harder than wearing a snood will be finding them in stores. The aforementioned hairnet will do, but be sure it matches your hair color. Snoods in bolder textures and colors for evening wear may be impossible to buy here until Bergdorf Goodman debuts its snood collection later this fall.



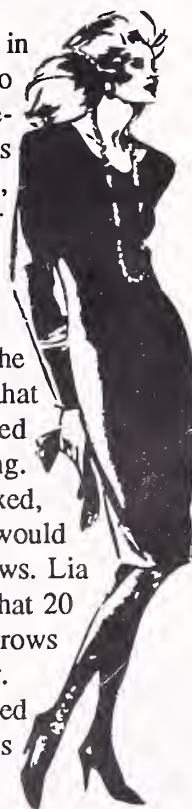
If you have a hankering for designer clothes but rely on mail order to complete your feminine wardrobe, take heart; this year the Spiegel catalog offers more designer clothes than ever before.

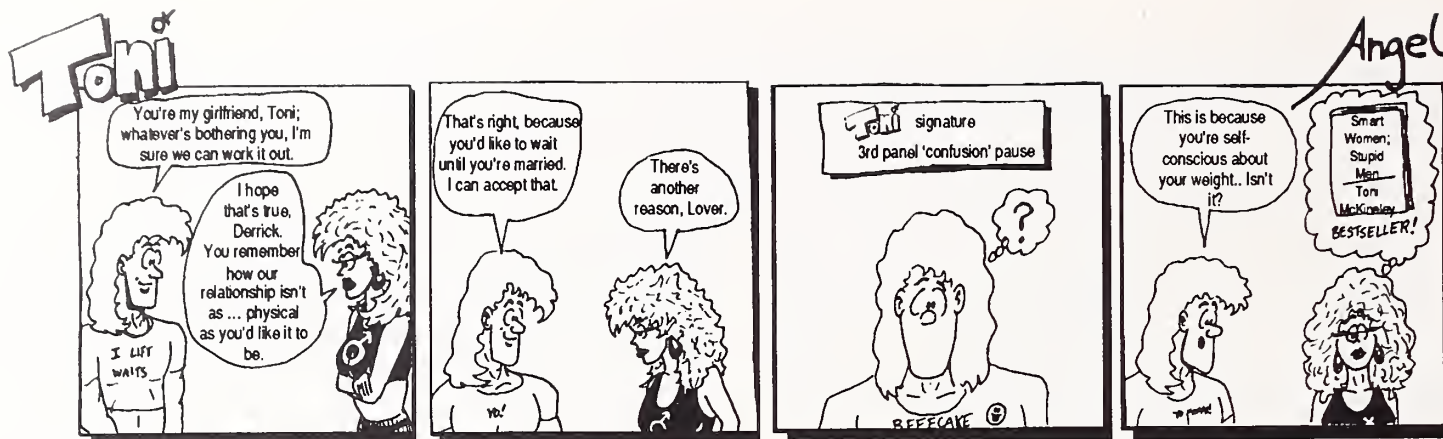
When it first introduced designer clothes in 1984, both designers and customers were slow to pick up on the concept. But when fashions became more realistic, the sales boomed. Clothes by Ralph Lauren, Anne Klein, Donna Karan, Adrienne Vittadini and others now account for 10 percent of Spiegel's sales of women's apparel.



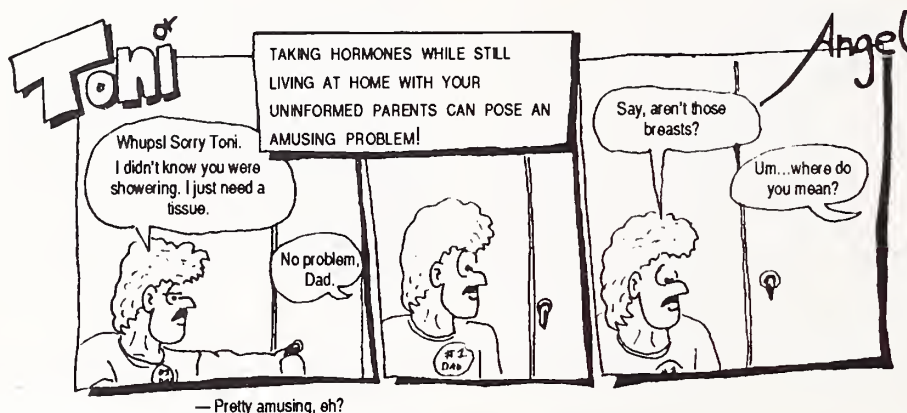
While make up continues to move toward the natural, neutral look, there is one bit of artifice that most crossdressers will require—properly shaped eyebrows produced either by tweezing or waxing. If you have been wanting to get your brows waxed, but were afraid to go to a salon for fear people would point at you in wonderment, here's good news. Lia Schorr, New York skin care expert, reports that 20 percent of her male clients are getting their eyebrows waxed nowadays. That's double from last year.

"Men with brows too thick want them shaped a bit," she says. "When I started in this business eight years ago, only a handful asked for that."





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nude, or photos depicting sexual activities, please. Only fashionably "dressed" photos are acceptable. Be sure to sign, date and stipulate age on each photo, either on the back, or on a separate paper enclosed with the prints. Mail photos to: **CREATIVE DESIGN SER-**

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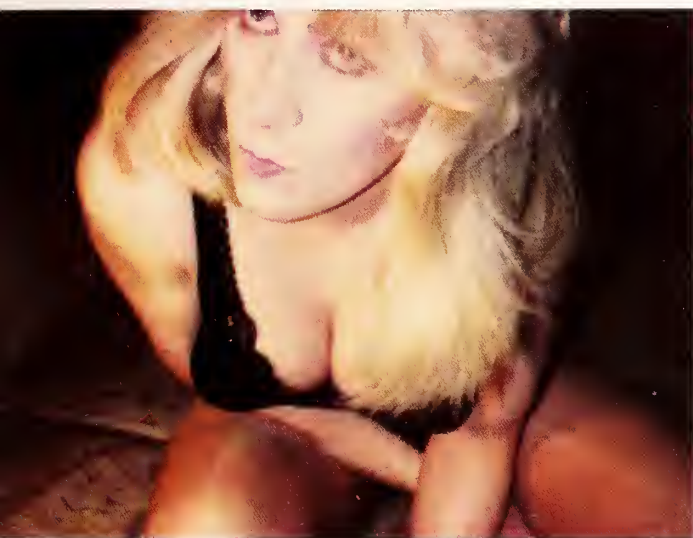
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Vicky - Orange County, Ca.

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LadyLike's

PROFILE

NAME: Danielle M.

AGE: Experienced but still exciting! 40's

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RESIDENCE: Burbank, Calif.

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Danielle

LadyLike: Tell us a little about Danielle.

Danielle M: I am a transvestite, heterosexual, and have been crossdressing most of my life. My goal in dressing is to project the image of a sensual, erotic and desirable woman, so I use makeup, very high heels and corsetry to achieve that goal. Along with being a TV I am also a professional photographer. This has allowed me to photograph other TVs, TV groups and some of the world's most beautiful transsexuals. I get a great deal of pleasure not only from my own dressing but also from viewing others that have crossed the dividing line between the masculine and feminine worlds.

LL: Do you have any childhood memories about dressing?

DM: When I was very small, about age

three, I remember playing with my older sister's clothes, things that she had given me. Money was scarce and I had to amuse myself with things at hand. My sister would give me her soft kidskin gloves and silky pieces of cloth. I remember thrilling to the touch of leather and silken fabrics. I believe that this was the beginnings of my fascination with feminine attire. Those gloves my sister gave me made a major impact on me. Now I wear custom-made shoulder length leather gloves as a matter of practice. The feel is simply delicious.

LL: We're sure that many readers can identify with your early memories. Lots of us "borrowed" clothes from a sister or our mother.

DM: Indelibly etched on my mind is the way that my mother would dress. She would



Danielle, what a tiny waist you have!

always wear very high heels. She was a very attractive woman and she continued to wear high heels until she had reached her late sixties. She had a large collection of shoes. Frequently she would add to it and discard shoes she no longer wanted via the Goodwill box or Salvation Army. This became my first and most important source of high heels. My mother also wore sheer, silky stockings and corsets.

LL: Some would say you were very lucky to have such a sensuous, sexy mother. We'll bet you couldn't stay out of her closet. We know we wouldn't. Did you ever get caught?

DM: I would make frequent trips into her closet and wear her highest heeled shoes while she was out shopping.

One incident threatened to stop my activities altogether. My parents announced they were going shopping one afternoon. As soon as they left I was into Mom's closet and to

my delight I found a new pair of spike heeled sandals. The shoe had lots of straps and buckles and the highest heel yet. I got the shoes on and started walking around the house. I got very aroused.

The next thing I knew I heard the car pull in the driveway. I fumbled to get the buckles and straps undone but they were too tight. I realized I was about to be caught, so I hid under the bed. Mother called to me but I didn't answer her. My mother, failing to find me anywhere, looked under the bed and there I was, red with embarrassment, wearing her shoes! I was mortified.

She asked me what I was doing under there. I mumbled some feeble words about curiosity and her strange shoes. Then, to my horror, she called my father in to view his son.

But my initial embarrassment passed when she knelt to unfasten the tight buckles and straps. I felt her nylons rubbing against me. I smelled her perfume. And, for the first time, I



A classic pose for a classic lady.

noticed her long, scarlet finger nails.

I was never the same after that. Within a few weeks I tried on a garter belt and stockings. They added much to the sensual feeling of the stiletto heels. I never wore heels without stockings after that and I rapidly plunged into the whole world of feminine attire. I wore her corsets, her dresses, jewelry and later her makeup.

LL: *Were you like other young TVs? Did you start to "collect" your own clothing items?*

DM: Yes, I would sort through mother's Goodwill donations before they left the house. I would take the choicest items for myself. Then I would take a pair of stockings from mother's large collection. The items were never missed and I was thrilled to have my own feminine wardrobe. It would keep me happy for hours. We had a den/playroom over our garage and here I would hide my treasures. I dressed when everyone was gone



Warning! HOT lady in HOT leather.

and it was safe. I was probably between the ages of twelve and fourteen at the time. I kept dressing right through high school.

LL: *What happened when you finally moved out? What about college and later?*

DM: College life was a problem for me in terms of my dressing. I shared an apartment with a roommate and this infringed on my freedom to dress. I was very frustrated. I was also very fussy about the women I would date. They had to wear very high heels and tight fitting dresses or I wasn't interested. The women who dressed like this seemed to become fewer as I grew older.

After college I spent three years in the military but only the first year kept me away from my spikes. In the second year of service I was sent to Southeast Asia and found more freedom than I thought possible. Crossdressing is an ancient ritual over there.



What a shame to cover those gorgeous legs.

In almost every country, from Thailand to the Philippines, there are very exotic transvestites and transsexuals that would put American women to shame.

In the Orient I found that, when not on duty, I could visit clubs that were frequented by other TVs and felt very at ease. I found this to be an exciting experience to dress totally en-femme and be out in the open.

LL: Then, your tour in the service ended up with your "coming out" so to speak. What do you see in your future for Danielle?

DM: I came out of the closet more and more as I met these "ladies" of the Orient and I began to realize that TVs and TSs are not all that different from the general population in terms of their sexual appetites. More and more as time goes on, the public is being educated as to the true nature of the TV and TS communities, much as they have been educated about the gay culture. I am very



A softer look but still very sexy!

happy to be able to write articles like this one, dress when I wish and to be able to meet others that enjoy the same activities I find so stimulating.

Much of my time now is taken up with photo sessions of TV or TS friends. In my future I see a never ending parade of nylon clad legs, perched upon tall, sexy, high heels.

For me, the world is a delightful place, full of beautiful bodies, spike heels, corseted figures, erotic art, makeup and sensual experiences too numerous to mention. Many, many people in this community have helped me to become more comfortable with myself and, in turn, I have tried to help others as well.

Editor's note: Danielle is a member of Powder Puffs of Orange County and for a time served as a member of the board of directors. She is also responsible for the International TV Shopping Guide.



Stop drooling on the page!

Review

Not your typical female impersonator nor a drag queen, Charles

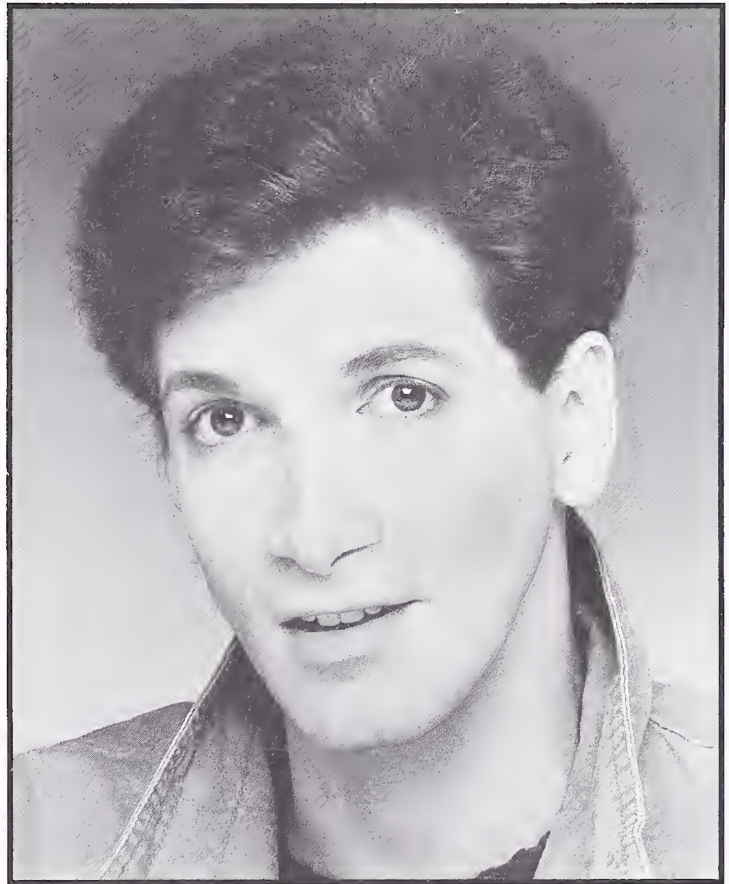
Busch is more the male actress, a fading breed in the theater. By Daniel M. T. Graham

Drag is a man playing little boy playing little girl dress up. Charles Bush has taken the art of female impersonation to heights that few others have achieved in theatrical history. All of the females that Mr. Bush has portrayed are spoofs on the less impersonated women. He does not portray the standard line like Mae West, Marilyn Monroe, and the others that plague current drag shows.

Mr. Bush paces the presentations of his new plays very carefully so as to not inundate the theater going public with his wit. Everything he does is well planned and this is evident in his work as an actor and playwright. His latest play that was at the W.P.A. Theater opened only after the closing of "Psycho Beach Party" and served as a tryout for yet another camp creation by the master of the outrageous.

Theater In Limbo began as an outlet for the creative works of Mr. Bush and his love of performing. Never being content with the plays of others, he seized upon the idea of creating his own characters and avoiding the middleman—commonly known as the playwright. His character creations take us back to the old 'B' rated films that exploited the fake glamour of the 30's and 40's.

Mr. Bush has created his own child of sorts or prodigy in Andy Halliday, the young man who has been with Theater In Limbo from the beginning. Mr. Halliday has written the Play "Sex Slaves" in the same style as Mr. Bush. The success of Mr. Bush, a genre of camp plays has sprung up, but are pale in imitations that weather rapidly. It is impossible to imitate what this group of actors has done,



Charles Busch

since on the face of it, it is fun, but underneath it is a very organized and tightly closed group of genius quality people.

The financial stability of Theater In Limbo permits them to produce more works by its stable of actors/writers. During 1988 they have presented such works as "Sex Slave", "Lip-synching", and "Lady In Question". Each new work is more outlandish and camp than the previous one and it becomes almost a game of topping the previous show! Limbo has become the equivalent of the Red Group of the 20's and 30's in that they both poke fun at the established and explore new avenues of adventure in the Off-Off Broadway genre.



Charles Busch, left, and Theresa Marlowe in "Vampire Lesbians of Sodom" at the Provincetown Playhouse, NYC

Mr. Bush may well be on his way to becoming the next Neil Simon. He turns out comedies and more serious works with constant merit. His play "Vampire Lesbians of Sodom" has been produced in other cities and "Psycho Beach Party" had a run in Germany. I wonder how Chicklet did with a German accent?

"Vampire Lesbians" has been in a state of rigor mortis as far as its being produced as a film in that nothing has really transpired other than conferences and a few contracts. This work, as well as all of Mr. Bush's, would lose something in being translated onto film for I am certain that the film would camp it to death. To have any of Mr. Bush's works on

film, he would have to be permitted to exercise a great deal of creative control.

Incidentally, for those of you like myself who can not get enough of Mr. Bush, you may be interested in knowing that he is now working out at a gym developing his youthful chest. What I wonder is whether he works out in a simple strand of pearls to show up against his silk gym ensemble? He is definitely not the type to sit idly by and will be going back to "Vampire Lesbians".

Now, all we have to do is wait and see what else comes from the agile mind of Charles Bush and be surprised and pleased by his inimitable wit.



All photos this page from the play "The Lady In Question."

Top left: Charles Busch, left, and Kenneth Elliot (photo - Martha Swope Assoc./Carol Rosegg)

Top right: L to R, Meghan Robinson, Julie Halston and Charles Busch (photo - Martha Swope Assoc./Carol Rosegg)

Bottom right: Charles Busch as Gertrude Garnet (photo - T. L. Boston)

Editor's Note: I've seen "Vampire Lesbians" and it is a delightful play. Being in the Village, ticket prices are very reasonable. You may attend while crossdressed. I did and we had a ball.



The *Incredible Shrinking Tran*

A Science Fiction Novella by Phaedra Kelly - Part 3

Were it not for its deadly dangers, what Irma could see at her level in the garden was a vision of great beauty. The summer green of thick grass stalks was so much more profound, and almost day glow in its luminosity. Each plant's color was working hard on photosynthesis, and shades of motion flickered thorough their stem cores. The soil was alight with the sun's refraction off its gritty crystal elements, and a snail trail looked like a shining highway of jewels and precious metals. Shade under any leaf seemed as emphatic as that of any giant redwood tree. Beyond her limit of focus swam the living haze of thermography, a contour map of temperatures. In that, any foe with better vision might lurk, sizing her up for a meal.

She trod with careful speed, aware of hazards that might lay beneath the soil too — the traps of predators were everywhere. Sound fizzed, and occasionally breeze moved the green stalks like a giant ghost,

confusing the issue. Nervous concentration fired by adrenalin guided her the two feet, that in scale was more like two miles plus.

There, Irma dared climb a little way up the pillar-grained stump of a weed, its hairs providing a foothold, which in itself told her, that her height was much less than she'd estimated. The stem stank, a bitter odor.

Poison? Maybe. I can't see anymore than before, I'd better get off here. But as she looked down to begin her descent she saw a worm breach below, its widely variegated end parted the grit only briefly, flexed as if sensing or smelling like a nose, then vanished back down much more quickly leaving only the impression of the fracture it had made on topsoil. Something had claimed it from below. Irma gave the environment a full 80 degree scan.

At the edge of her focus above, she saw light filigree legs. Concentrated inspection told her it was no threat. A

vegetarian aphid. A fellow Tran, being an hermaphrodite. That consoled her somewhat.

This maybe the land of dinosaurs, but there passive veg eaters as well as insect Tyrannosaur's.

The leaf was dipping with suspension, like a trampoline. then suddenly it upturned enough for her to see the huge jaws of the ladybird that was devouring her aphid-cousin, alive. Irma just let go and dropped, landing near the worms record of existence, feeling it cave in under her, but she was up and running. Running wildly, heart pounding, mind overtaking her.

"I'm human... resourceful at any size, the commander of this planet at present, no matter what. Under God... God help me... odd how the mind runs..run, run, run, get out of my way...come on you damned predators, come and get me, but you'd better watch out...better be fast before I find a weapon..." Then her breathing began to labor and she switched her energies to pow-

ering her leg muscles, her mind crashing into an abstract design of careless single purpose. "Win, win, win, win, win... the indomitable human...win, win, win..." Somewhere far back in her native subconscious a clam word of approval said, this is how it all began, and how the next specie in the queue of evolution will take over, too.

She overrun by seven paces before she dared stop to look down at the hard surface that had replaced soil. The grit had lacerated her tiny feet. Flecks of blood patchworked on the grain of the tiles showed her track from the garden. Cold sweat got colder on her stationary body and Irma sank to her knees panting. A reverberating thump approached her.

"High heels, can't move, better to die under a human foot, don't care..." but she crawled anyway. Her deeper mind commanded her body now, with an even older sense of self preservation and she, was blindly in its hands. the "doink"... "doink"... "doink" sound grew louder, painful, then softer as its echo reversed under Doppler's law, the feet were walking away, Irma was unharmed.

She rested. A few moments to catch her breath and rethink, then she stood, her feet aching and her legs trembling. When she looked up and around, as far as her eyes could focus she

recognized legs. A forest of legs. Mostly, to her relief, motionless. These were the women she had heard were waiting outside. A few paces put her directly under one of them, and in that shade she could look up, without the sun blinding her (for at her height, here was no blue sky to the day.) Irma hoped from this, to try to tell who was who, maybe glimpse some shape of face, then if she recognized one, to cling onto her somewhere and travel to some familiar place maybe, to get back to Sherry. She fought to focus. But with sadness realized that under the canopy of a skirt she would never see so much as a tip of chin, though near leg was distorted and upper leg and the line of underwear was lewdly apparent.

"My God. Here I am, turning female, loosing sexual interest, shrinking away and I, of all people, have the upshot-view that every dirty old man who ever wrote into a smut-mag ever dreamer of...you've got to laugh, or you'd cry."

She couldn't even determine genital status, to tell if these were wombed-sisters or male-women. Though vague temperature colors which swirled around the gussets gave imaginative clues to states of mind...or of instinct. Sexual arousal is an instinct, before it ever reaches the mind, well, perhaps, for those

with the choice of both. For Irma, with her hormones changing, it was only a memory out, at least a human contact in a land that time forgot such as science fiction couldn't fashion.

If she remained where she was, there would be urgent priorities; food, shelter and a weapon before dark set in and with it, a shift-change in predators. Despite the human knowledge she had of it, in these environs she was greatly disadvantaged, and decided to opt for the chance of an escape, to somewhere she knew something about, - indoors. Irma climbed up the heel of a shoe, grasping an ornate buckle and finding a grip on a strap...just as the leg began to move.

Each swing made a drop in her tummy like the sensation of rising over a humpback bridge in a car, each stepfall was a jolt, but she learned the rhythm...until it quickened unexpectedly, and her grip became precarious. The woman seemed to be covering ground towards the house, and the noisy clatter of others joined her. Every inch of breath was jolted out of Irma's lungs. When the woman stopped, Irma lost her grip and before she knew it was flying through the air.

She skidded uncontrolled through the grit, its dust shower dense and full of pebble sized lumps-to her-

took a long time to fold back down through the air and settle. She got up, dazed and grazed and looked with amazement at her fortune. she stood before an empty Coke can, battered, semi-crushed and discolored by oxidation. If she could find the ringpull, a weapon. If otherwise uninhabited, a home and the remnant of chemical warfare.

She realized that on its side, the can was little taller than herself. She climbed onto a real pebble, - a bolder to her, and stood naked and though battered, proud, measuring herself against the can and ready to claim her prize, but this one victory was to be denied her.

Irma thought it the mandibles of some mighty insect that had stalked and taken her. It was painful enough. It was cold, massive and enclosing ... then she was inside a tube, then blown through it at great speed to land in something soft, wet and warm in a dark enclosure. it was all so fast and all too much, she passed out.

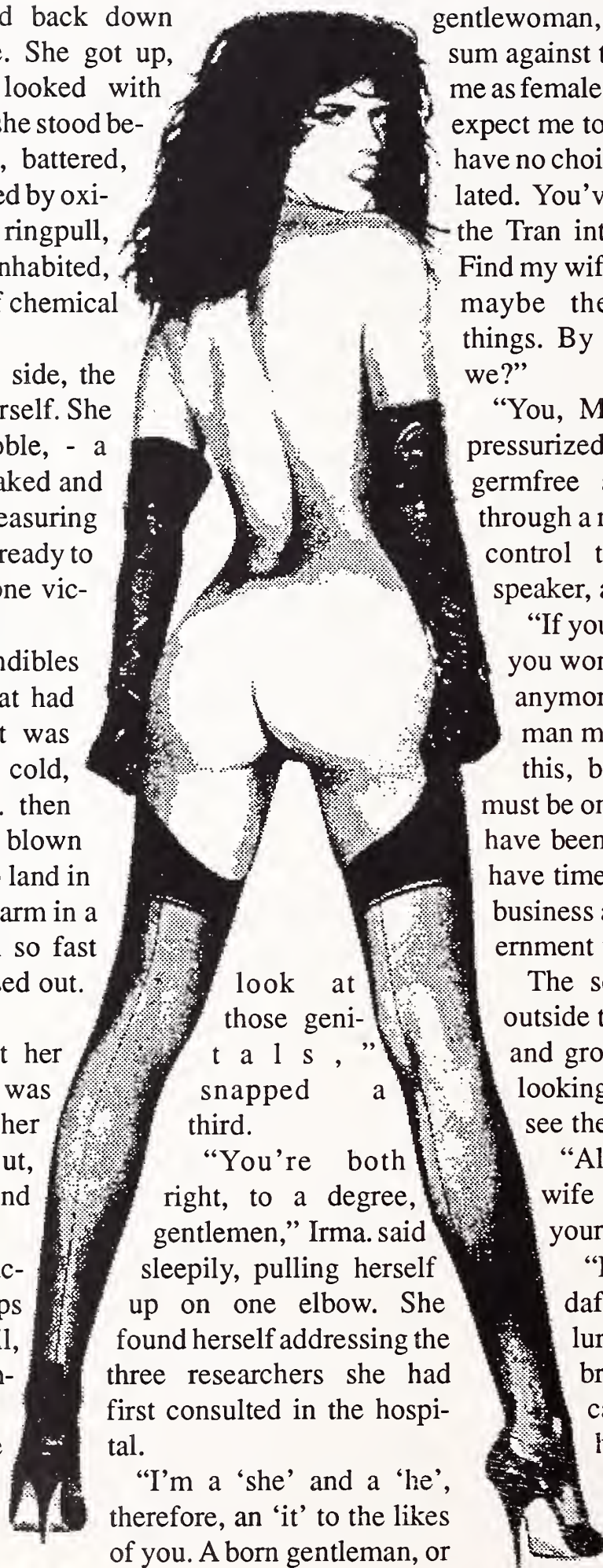
"Miss Royal ... Irma?"

She heard the voice at her own frequency, which was surprise enough to make her reach consciousness. But, Irma lay still, eyes shut and she listened.

"I told you to use the suction tube first! Using forceps on something that small, you idiot. If you've damaged it ..."

"She's not an 'It.'" The second voice was flat and emotionless.

"Yeah, take a good



look at those genitalia," snapped a third.

"You're both right, to a degree, gentlemen," Irma said sleepily, pulling herself up on one elbow. She found herself addressing the three researchers she had first consulted in the hospital.

"I'm a 'she' and a 'he', therefore, an 'it' to the likes of you. A born gentleman, or

gentlewoman, would weigh the sum against the parts and address me as female. Now, I suppose, you expect me to cooperate because I have no choice. You've miscalculated. You've failed to consider the Tran intuition. So, piss off! Find my wife. Bring her here and maybe then we'll consider things. By the way, where are we?"

"You, Miss Royal, are in a pressurized tank on a bed on lint, germfree and under scrutiny through a magnifying glass. We control the volume of the speaker, and ..."

"If you blast me out with it, you won't have a test subject anymore. I thought Cornerman might be the blame for this, but now I realize he must be on *your* trail. You three have been clever, but you on't have time to try this shrinking business again before the government finds you."

The sounds coming from outside the tank sounded low and growling. Irma avoided looking into the magnifier to see their faces.

"Alright, you win. your wife will be informed of your whereabouts."

"Informed? Are you daft? With Cornerman lurking about? No, you bring her here and be careful. If you harm her, I'll ..."

"Do you really think we'd do that? Come now, Miss

Royal, or may I call you Irma? We've studied our subject very well. We know how much you love your wife. You'd never suggest anything so dangerous unless Cornerman were close. We'll get word to her."

"Sure! After it's too late. I know I'm on the last stages now. So, what's next? Another body? Or, do I stand a chance of growing again?"

"No, that's too optimistic. We don't think it likely that you'll ever grow again. We didn't know of a 'cure' when we first saw you at the hospital and we're no closer now. Nor do we know if you'll ever stop shrinking, either."

"Ah, a test of infinity. But how do you monitor it without joining me?"

"We don't and it's not a test of infinity but of microbiology. We intend to put you in the middle of a biological soup, the stuff of life, and view as much of your journey as we can through an electron microscope. We have an ultra-micro transmitter for you so we can communicate during the process. That is, if you agree."

"Don't you know enough already?"

"Of course not! Look, all you have to do is report what you see. We'll figure out what it is you're looking at. We want to know color texture, shape, movement, smell or anything else you can discover at your level."

Irma was fascinated. She could not pretend that it wasn't an exciting prospect, a literal chance of a lifetime. She'd already decided to help, not for them, but for the sake of knowledge and science.

"What happens when you try to publish this stuff. You're all going to jail, you know."

"Yes, but we'll be famous and we're willing to accept the consequences."

"You better hope that Cornerman doesn't shoot first and ask questions later. So, how did you do it to me?"

"You figure it out."

"Well, if you can't reverse it, it must be hormonal or genetic. Probably recombinant DNA. And, since it didn't seem to affect anyone but me, it must have been in some... That's it! The jumpsuit."

"Right, so far."

"But what if I hadn't bought the suit? You must have indexed the new DNA to my DNA. Very clever."

"Why, my dear young lady, you got it absolutely correct. I couldn't be more proud than if you were my own daughter."

"Oh, don't patronize me, just tell me why ME?"

"Uhn ... Well, we ... ah ... needed someone who ... wouldn't be missed."

"Youuuuuu BASTARDS!"

"Yes, well, we're kind of chagrined about that now. There wasn't supposed to be a fuss. They did make a very big

fuss, though, didn't they? But, it does appear as though we've got the best ... err ... Tran for the job."

While anger curled like smoke at the corners of her mind, Irma tried to calm down.

"Okay, let's get going with the briefing. I figure you've got half an hour, at best."

"How do you figure that?"

"You don't have to be Sherlock Holmes to surmise that Cornerman is close by. He knows I'm shrinking. He knows I met you three. And, he probably knows about the electron microscope. So unless you had tickets for the Concord, he knows I'm close by. And, I'm going to shrink again, soon, so get a move on."

"Er, yes, yes, right away. Oh, we'll make sure Sherry knows what happened to you."

"Are you so sure that Cornerman will let you?"

"He's powerless to stop us. As much as we know already is with an outside contact. If we disappear, it will all come out anyway. And, by the way, we've given the file a name, too. Experiment Irma Royal."

"This is the first thing I've really been sure of since this nightmare started. Get the gear, we have an experiment to do..."



to be continued

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101 (Dallas) - Sophisticated, ultra-feminine lexbian fox seeking correspondence, friendship and possible relationship with intelligent and empathetic GG. I travel occasionally, midwesly and east coast. I love letters from all and promise my photo and letter for yours **(Debbie)**



107 (Illinois) - Looking for friends and assistance in the exhilarating world of TVism. I love being feminine and desire correspondence and possible meetings with like-minded people. I need discretion, but have no preference as to sex, age, or race. Send photo. **(Laura)**



111 (Los Angeles) - Love to dress up as a lady and meet interesting TVs and crossdressers. I love shopping for feminine clothes and new wig styles. If you would like to share a part of my life and let me share part of yours, either by mail or in person, please write. **(Liz)**



103 (Long Beach, CA) Crossdresser with ultr-high heel fetish, loves to correspond and exchange photos with all. You will always receive a prompt reply and



109 (Mass.) - I love modeling and corresponding with other TVs and gentlemen of honorable intentions. Please send photo for possible friendship. Complete discretion.



112 (Los Angeles) - Seductive, attractive TV, loves being treated as woman, desires correspondence, friendship, possible meetings with women, TV/TS. Love heels, and all

LadyLike Personals

rettes for in person meetings, but will correspond. Send SASE/phone. (Lori)



113 (Mass.) - Boston TV seeking friends for correspondence and meetings, to exchange experiences and fantasies with those who enjoy dressing. Please send photo and will do likewise, Lets get together for shopping and girl talk. (Adele)



114 (SE Wis.) - Married TV with

respond and possibly meet with other TVs and couples with similar interests. We enjoy feminine dressing and lingerie. I travel midwest and east coast. (Koni)

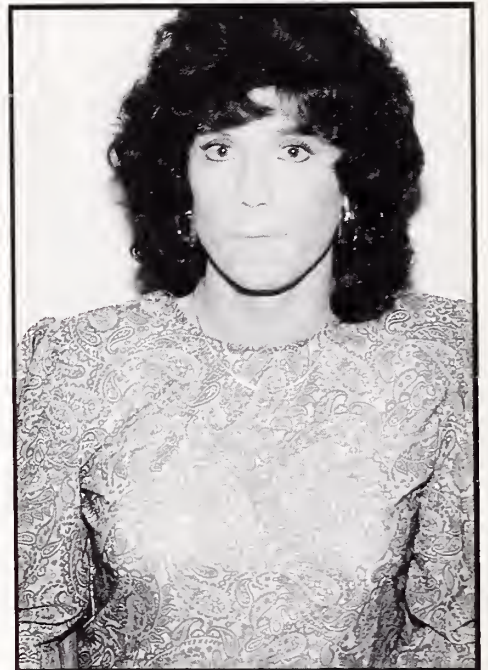


115 (Mass. & W. Coast) - Executive, Bi-WM TV, tall, slender & attractive, seeks fun, clean and discreet playmates. Travel U.S. extensively, especially both coasts. Love silk, lingerie, and good wine. Your photo gets mine. (Michelle)

110 (No. Va.) - Gentleman, writer, photographer, seeks those serious about their femininity for correspondence, maybe eventual meeting. If you consider yourself a lady and like to be treated that way, I'm interested. (George)

116 (Penna.) - Phila. area hetero TV, 36 yrs. old, divorced, has own house, desires correspondence and photo exchanges with same. Into total dressing. Would also like to meet with other TVs in the same area. Please write. (Corin)

The editors reserve the right to edit ads



117 (Montana) - Hello out there to everyone who knows how wonderful we all feel and look as our other selves. I would like to correspond and possibly meet all of you. I've many ideas and helpful hints. I'd appreciate any details on hormones. Thanks all of you. (Coreene)

LadyLike Personals



118 (Texas) - Ultra-feminine TV, captivated by the total look. Interested in meeting an understanding female for possible relationship. I am attractive as a male and I enjoy relating to women in this way also. Interested, too, in correspondence with other TVs and TSs. Please reply with photo. (Lee)



119 (S.E. PA) - WM, 39, athletically built and very masculine. Seeks, attractive TV, ages 21-25, very feminine and submissive (sexy legs a must), for possible relationship. I will treat you as the woman you are. Photo a must. (Sal)



120 (Long Island, N.Y.) - Glamorous, fantasy girl desires to meet others who are sincere, secure, responsible, discreet and still fun, especially other sisters. Please send photo for reply. (Lucille)



122 (Wheeling, W. Va.) - Average TV who likes to be out. Not that passable but enjoy dining and dancing, trading photos and letters. Not gay or interested in men. Married, spouse knows and goes out with me on occasion. Like the total look. and photo sessions in public classy settings. Have PC and use JSS-BBS. (Micki)



124 (Ontario, Canada) - Love to dress as often as I can. Interested in sharing crossdressing experiences. Please write and send photo soon. (Joyce)



125 (Hiwaii) - Sexy & beautiful. 31 yr. old TV seeks correspondence with other TV/TS. Discreet. Meetings a possibility. I've never been "out" before, but maybe it's time. (Dee)

LadyLike Personals



126 (Ohio) - Sexy, slender TV in early 30's seeks TVs, females and couples into the feminine scene. Looking for friendship and sexy fun. (Lynn)



127 (Maryland) - Bi TV seeks women, TVs/TSs and select couples for fun and friendships. Discretion required and respected. Please send photo. Interested in expanding my feminine horizons. Love everything about being a woman. Very clean and expect same. (Denise)

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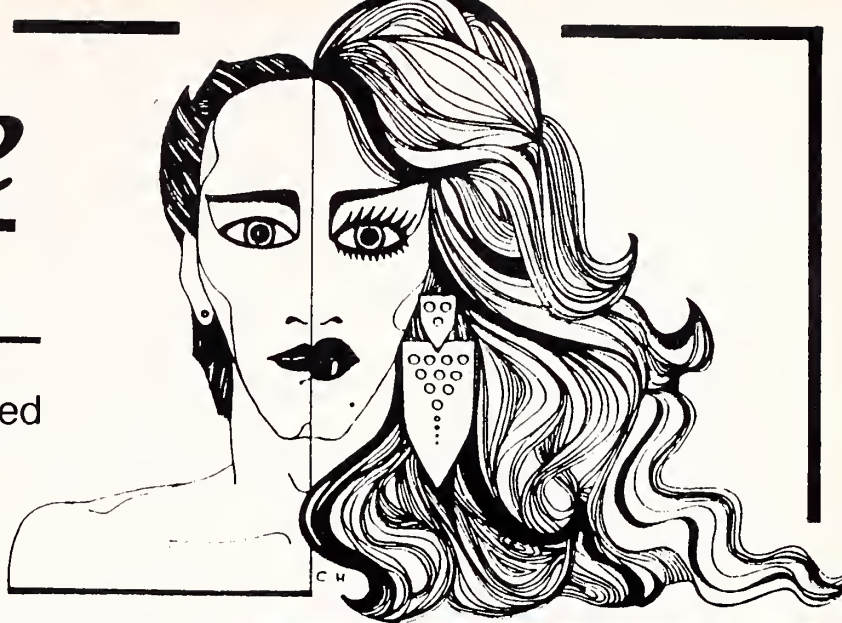
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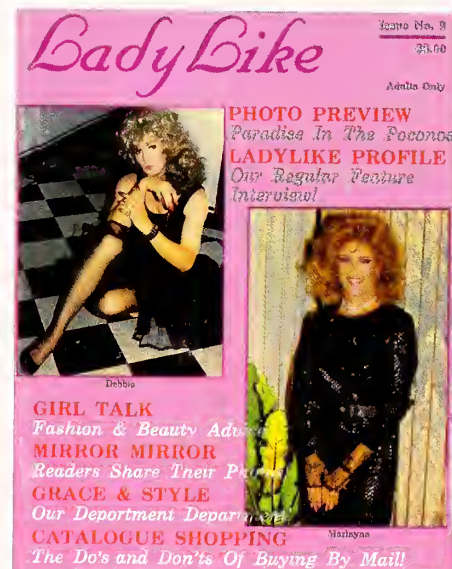
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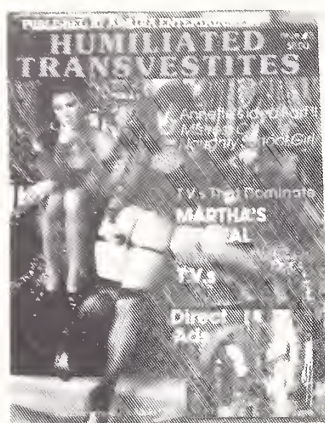


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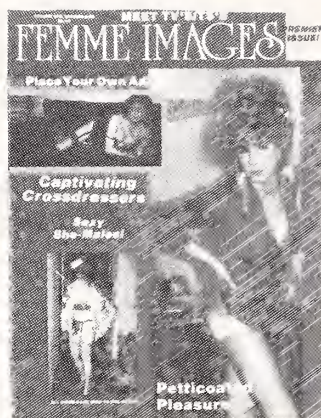
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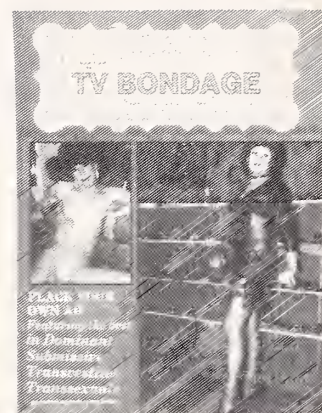
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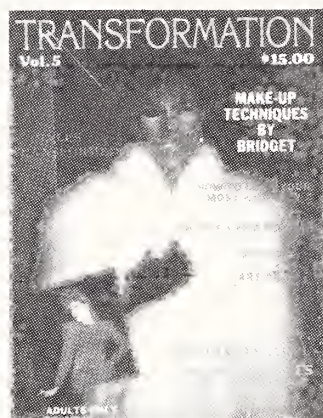
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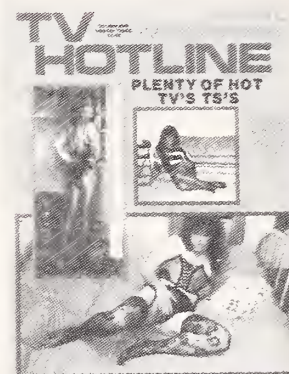


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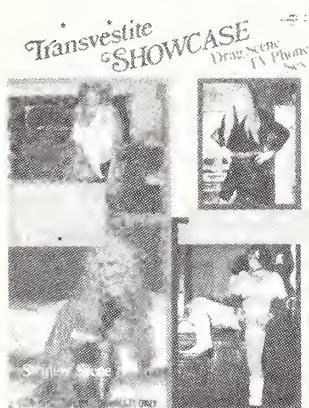


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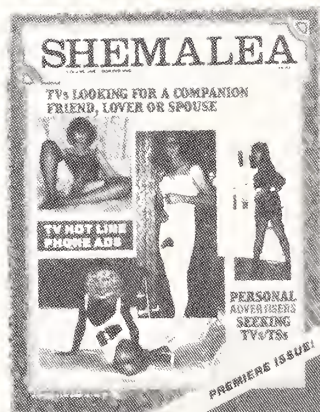
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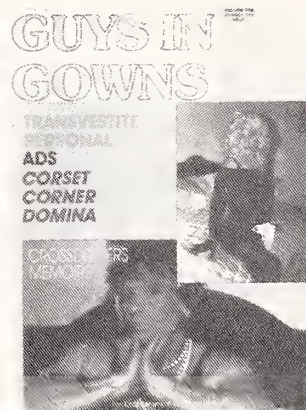
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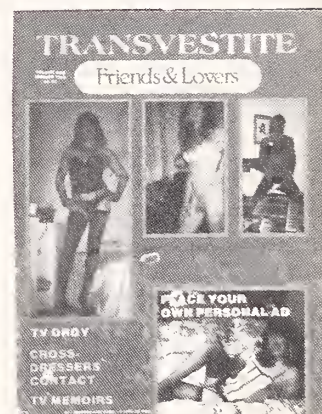
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